

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
INFO CMDT NWC
NDU WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 031336

FOR AMB. FROM FSO W.C. HAMILTON, DIR.INTERNTL AFFAIRS, NWC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, MILI, YO, RO, PL

SUBJECT: PROPOSED NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE VISIT
NDU FOR PRESIDENT

1. BELIEVE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND WILL BE PERTINENT TO
YOUR CONSIDERATION WHETHER PROPOSED NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE
(NWC) STUDY VISITS TO EASTERN EUROPE, OUTLINED SEPTTEL,
WILL SUPPORT US POLICY PURPOSES, AND MAY FACILITATE
DISCUSSIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IF YOU APPROVE
NWC REQUEST:

A. MARKED REDUCTION IN SIZE OF STUDENT GROUPS AND OF
FACULTY/STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE "TAIL" (PER SEPTTEL, SEVEN
PROPOSED FOR BELGRADE AND NINE IN SUB-GROUP FOR WARSAW
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AND BUCHAREST) REFLECTS BOTH FISCAL CONSTRAINTS AND OUR
DESIRE TO INCREASE FLEXIBILITY IN PROGRAMMING TO SERVE

BOTH NWC AND MISSION OBJECTIVES. GROUPS WILL BE INFORMAL BUT STRESS INTENSIVE SCHEDULE, TO FURTHER PREPARATION OF PAPERS ON SELECTED BUT WIDE-RANGING NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES ALREADY UNDERWAY IN RELATED REGIONAL COURSES.

B. WE ASSUME OMISSION OF A TRIP DIRECTOR OF AMBASSADORIAL/GENERAL OFFICER RANK WILL LOWER THE GROUP PROFILE AND MAY FURTHER ENHANCE PROGRAMMING FLEXIBILITY, AND ELIMINATE

NEED FOR ANY PROTOCOL FUNCTIONS, UNLESS LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE; SHOULD YOU BELIEVE ON THE CONTRARY, THAT PRESENCE OF A SENIOR TRIP DIRECTOR IS IMPORTANT, PLEASE ADVISE.

C. NWC IS NOT CONTEMPLATING ANY STUDENT VISIT TO THE USSR THIS YEAR AND WILL TAKE NO SOUNDINGS IN MOSCOW. HOST GOVERNMENTS MAY BE INFORMED OF THIS FACT IF YOU JUDGE IT USEFUL DURING DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE NWC VISIT.

D. AS A RESULT OF MID-1975 REORGANIZATION, THE NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE AND INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE OF THE ARMED FORCES, WITHOUT LOSING SEPARATE IDENTITIES, HAVE BECOME CONSTITUENT ELEMENTS OF NEW NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (NDU), SITED AT FORT MCNAIR. IF NWC TITLE MIGHT CAUSE LOCAL CONCERN, STUDENT GROUP COULD BE IDENTIFIED AS AFFILIATES WITH NDU.

E. USCINCEUR HAS BEEN ASKED TO ASSIST WITH AIRLIFT WITHIN EUROPE. IF DISTINCTION BETWEEN USE OF MILITARY AND COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT WOULD MAKE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE TO YOUR OR HOST GOVERNMENT'S DECISION, GROUP WILL USE COMMERCIAL ROUTING.

2. IF VISIT IS APPROVED WE WILL WELCOME YOUR THOUGHTS DURING ADVANCE PLANNING AND WHILE GROUP IS IN-COUNTRY AS TO WAYS IN WHICH THESE STUDY VISITS CAN BE USED TO FURTHER US OBJECTIVES.

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3. FOR BUCHAREST: DURING OCTOBER VISIT TO NWC, COMMANDANT OF ROMANIAN MILITARY ACADEMY, GENERAL TUTOVEANU RECALLED AT HIS INITIATIVE, PREVIOUS NWC VISITS TO BUCHAREST AND SAID HE HOPED STUDENTS COULD GO AGAIN THIS YEAR. COMMANDANT EXPRESSED APPRECIATION BUT SUBJECT NOT PURSUED FURTHER AT THAT TIME.

4. FOR WARSAW: POLISH MINISTER-COUNSELOR WASHINGTON, WIEJACZ, GAVE A MOST EFFECTIVE PRESENTATION ON EASTERN EUROPE TO NWC CLASS ON JANUARY 29. DURING INFORMAL

LUNCH, HE INDICATED SOME SENSITIVITY TO "WAR COLLEGE" LABEL BUT AT END SAID HE FAVORED A SMALL GROUP VISIT. WE SAID ONLY THAT MATTER NOW BEING DISCUSSED WITH STATE AND THAT COMMANDANT OR I MIGHT WISH TO TALK WITH HIM FURTHER. PLEASE ADVISE IF/WHEN EMBASSY RAISES POSSIBILITY OF VISIT WITH POLISH GOVERNMENT SO THAT WE MIGHT SEEK TO ELICIT AN ENDORSEMENT FROM HERE.

5. AS SEPTTEL INDICATES, NWC IS SENDING ONE LARGE GROUP TO BRUSSELS, WHERE REGIONAL PROBLEMS AND INTEGRATIVE INCENTIVES/DISINCENTIVES WITHIN AND BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE WILL BE EXAMINED. THIS GROUP WILL THEN DISPERSE, WITH EACH SUB-GROUP SPENDING MORE TIME AT EACH OF FEWER STOPS THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS, TO ACHIEVE GREATER DEPTH. PROPOSED VISITS TO EASTERN EUROPE WOULD IMPORTANTLY FURTHER THE OBJECTIVE OF INCREASED CURRICULUM EMPHASIS ON THAT AREA, AND I HOPE YOU WILL JUDGE THEM USEFUL.

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